

STATE PLAN UNDER TITLE XIX OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

State/Territory: Wisconsin

Method for Determining Cost Effectiveness of Caring for
Certain Disabled Children At Home
(Katie Beckett Program)

Cost effectiveness is determined in accordance with federal statute 42 U.S.C. 1396a(e)(3)(B)(iii), which states "the estimated amount which would be expended for medical assistance for the individual for such care outside an institution is not greater than the estimated amount which would otherwise be expended for medical assistance for the individual within an appropriate institution . . . "

To become eligible for the Katie Beckett Program, the child must meet a level of care typically provided in a hospital, skilled nursing facility or intermediate care facility. Level of care is determined by reviewing the child's needs against screening criteria which correspond to admission criteria of certain institutions. The nurses who review the child's application assign the appropriate level of care based on the most recent medical records, information from the family and other sources.

From the medical records provided and the "Home Service Identification Plan" written for each child, an estimate of the total annual cost of in-home services to Medical Assistance is developed. This cost is then compared with the annual cost that would be charged to the Medical Assistance Program if the child were in an institution meeting the child's level of care needs. Annual institutional rates are extrapolated from the daily rates allowed through Wisconsin's Medical Assistance Program. For each program applicant, the cost of in-home services to the Medical Assistance Program must be no greater than the cost that would be incurred if the child were placed in an institution which meets the child's level of care needs.

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